

National Multi-Stakeholder Group Fisheries Transparency Initiative (FiTI)

Date: Thursday 17th March 2022
Venue: Maison Collet
Time: 9:00 to 10:00 hours

Members Present:

1. Mr. Philippe Michaud, National FiTI Lead-Blue Economy
2. Hon. Philip Monthy, representing the Party in power-Linyon Demokratik Seselwa (LDS) Party
3. Mr. Cyril Bonnelame, representing Transparency Initiatives Seychelles
4. Mr. David Bentley- representing Sea Harvest and SCCI
5. PS Roy Clarisse, Department of Fisheries, Ministry of Fisheries and the Blue Economy
6. Mr. Selwyn Edmond, representing the Industrial fleet
7. Mr. Grant Heyer, representing the Civil Society Organisations- (CEPS)
8. Mr. Darrell Green, representing the Praslin Fishermen's Association

Alternate members present:

1. Ms. Stephanie Radegonde, representing the Department of Fisheries-Ministry of Fisheries and the Blue Economy
2. Mr. Graham Green, representing the Praslin Fishermen's Association
3. Hon. Regina Esparon, representing Linyon Demokratik Seselwa (LDS) Party

Secretariat:

1. Dr. Ameer Ebrahim, Seychelles Fishing Authority
2. Ms. Fatime Kanté, Department of the Blue Economy

Members absent:

1. Hon. Wallace Cosgrow, representing the Opposition Party-Seychelles People's Party
2. Dr. Marie-Thérèse Purvis, representing the Civil Society Organisations- (CEPS)
3. Mr. Keith Andre, Fishermen Boat Owner's Association (FBOA)
4. Ms. Gabriella Gonthier, Youth Representative (with apology)

Agenda

1. Confirmation of the previous Minutes of the meeting
2. Approval of the draft Terms of Reference and Scope of Services for the Report Compiler
3. 2022 Workplan for the Seychelles 'National Multi-Stakeholder Group of the Fisheries Transparency Initiative' (FiTI)
4. Any other business

	Points Discussed.
	<p>The meeting was chaired by Mr. Philippe Michaud who is the FiTI National Lead and the Chairman.</p> <p>Mr. Michaud began the meeting by welcoming the new alternate representatives on the NMSG namely:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Hon. Regina Esparon - Mr. Graham Green - Ms. Elna Etienne (who was absent on the day)
1.0	<p><u>Confirmation of minutes.</u></p> <p>The minutes of the last meeting was unanimously endorsed by all members present in the meeting.</p>
2.0	<p><u>Draft Terms of Reference and Scope of Services for the Report Compiler.</u></p>
2.1	<p>The proposed draft TOR for the recruitment of the Report Compiler was presented to the NMSG by the Chairman.</p>
2.2	<p>After perusing the TOR, Members requested that the years (next to the deliverables) featured in the document are changed to properly capture the fiscal year we were in. Subject to the update, the TOR was approved. A final text will be circulated to members.</p>
2.3	<p>Two reports have already been produced by Dr. Jude Bijoux. Members expressed their satisfaction.</p>
2.4	<p>The third report should be produced before the end of the year as it was seen that December is a busy month and not all members are available during this time because of the festivity.</p>
3.0	<p><u>Draft FiTI Work plan for 2022.</u></p>
3.1	<p>The FiTI focal point Ms. Kanté presented the Draft FiTI Work plan for the year 2022.</p>
3.2	<p>Members had no further comments and it was agreed that a soft copy / 'digital copy' is circulated to all members for information. The Workplan was approved</p>
4.0	<p><u>Any Other Business/Way Forward</u></p>
4.1	<p>To organize an induction meeting for the new members with the FiTI International Secretariat</p>
4.2	<p>Absenteeism was recorded as a big issue in 2021. SFBOA is always absent as there is no alternate representative.</p>
4.3	<p>Members expressed concern that SFBOA is a very important institution and should find a way to be present at future meetings as the participation of the NMSG at meetings is recorded in the validation process.</p>

4.4	PS. Clarisse requested to review the TOR for the NMSG and enquired about how it addresses the issue of non-attendance.
4.5	It was requested that the FITI NMSG Chairman - Mr. Michaud, officially/formally writes to SFBOA representative, clearly indicating the purpose of the representative's absenteeism, their intent to remain on the FITI NMSG and that SFBOA nominates an alternate representative to attend future meetings. It was unanimously agreed that should Mr. Keith Andre not attend the next meeting, his membership to the NMSG will be revoked.
4.6	Members were requested to put forth recommendations that they feel might be essential in the improvement of FITI communication.
4.7	The artisanal fishery is very important for the Seychelles, but its socio-economic importance is not well documented.
4.8	There is a need for regular monitoring of the fish consumption per capita.
4.9	Need to recruit a Report Compiler by May 2022.
5.0	There are currently 7 participating Members. Ecuador recently joined, which is an important fishing nation recently joined the FITI initiative.
5.1	The manning of the National FiTI Secretariat is currently being handled by the Ministry of Fisheries and the Blue Economy, and discussion has started with SFA for the smooth transition of the Secretariat within their care. In the meantime, Dr. Ameer is acting as focal from SFA.

Meeting ended at 10:01am